

STUART ISLAND AIRWAY PARK OWNER'S ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES – May 26, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 10:00am by President Rhys Spoor. Present were Board members Randy Thompson, Jason Douglass, and Janelle Davis. Danette Carroll was present to record the meeting. Forty plus owners attended the meeting.

Reports/business:

Treasurer, Randy Thompson, reported checking balance as of April 30, 2025 is \$48,266.81, with an additional \$17,000 in reserve for expenses.

Annual expenses for 2024-2025 of \$22,051 exceeded the budget of \$19,900. Insurance costs, fire/emergency protection, and community property maintenance/equipment all increased this year. The current budget for 2025-2026 also is projected to exceed revenue collected by the annual assessments. The board proposed a vote to the owners to increase the annual assessment beginning this year to \$250 from the current \$200. Harry Truitt made a motion to approve the increase and it was seconded and approved.

The terms of Board members Janelle Davis and Jeni Potter expired. Jeni decided not to stay on the Board, and Janelle agreed to another three-year term. Sue Steinbrenner was nominated and elected to the Board. Danette Carroll was nominated and elected as secretary of the Board.

Agenda:

- **Reid Harbor Ramp:**

The ramp is stable and usable, although it may soon need new gravel and other repairs.

- **Prevost Dock/Parking Area:**

Dock maintenance is needed this summer. The connector hardware that holds the dock together is worn thin. Rhys and Jason will assess the supplies needed for repairs, and plan a work party for a high-tide repair date.

The plywood ramp to the dock needs a skid plate.

The rope lines that hold the dock in place to the shore are worn through and need replacing. Thanks to Chris Pack for drilling two holes, which will be filled with concrete to anchor new chains from shore to the top of dock. The chains will keep the dock from swaying back and forth. Another work party is needed for this project, and volunteers are encouraged to help.

Please contact Rhys to volunteer for these projects. Thank you!

From mid-May until mid-September please bow tie only on the Prevost community dock. Other suggestions: Use fenders on sides of boats to protect your boat and others. Take boats out to your floats if you have one. Leave the loading zone when finished unloading.

The Prevost parking area is flooded during the winter, and is very muddy through the spring. There are few places to park that are not in the mud. Please take your vehicles to your homes for the winter, so the full time residents have space to park. Thank you.

- **Road Maintenance/Burn Pile**

Some of the roads are in poor condition this spring. Gravel will be ordered. Thanks to George Renquist for volunteering to spread gravel on the bad spots. It was suggested to use larger gravel mixed with the smaller size to fill the potholes this year.

The burn pile is large this year. Last year it cost \$3,000 to burn the pile in the offseason. Please only dump materials that are grown on the island, and not items like planks with nails or any household items.

- **Runway**

We have a busy runway that is active at all times. Please do not cut across the middle of the runway. Stop and look for departing or landing planes before crossing the ends of the runway.

- **Fire District/Fire Brigade**

Fourteen VHF radios will be distributed to select fire brigade members to add another layer of communication in addition to cell phones. Communication is the key to quick response to fires and medical emergencies. There will be a map of landing zones and GPS coordinates and other information coming soon and will be distributed to all.

Everyone is encouraged to join the Stuart Island Fire Brigade. Classes are offered throughout the summer and are also available online. Even if you don't officially join, it is beneficial to attend classes to gain more information about fire fighting and medical emergencies. Included in this report is a list of the modules required to become a full Fire Brigade member.

The UTV we have had for three years will be moved to John's Island on June 9th.

Stuart Island East is scheduled to receive a new class 6 fire truck in June. In order to fit it into the Community building, a new 9' X 12' garage door was installed this spring. Thank you to Mike Parkins for contributing his expertise and managing the project. With the help of several others, the project is almost completed. Gravel is still needed outside the door.

Rhys explained that the expenses accrued by the new fire truck and housing it are covered by a contract lease with the San Juan County Fire Department. That lease pays Stuart Island East \$600/month to store the truck, which will cover expenses and maintenance. We have already received \$1,800 for April, May and June.

Two water tanks to fill the truck, one currently filled with 900 gallons of water, will be located behind the Community building. The truck also has a container that can be filled with sea water. For potential fires near your property, make sure your water tank fittings

are the same size as the truck fittings. This will shorten the time needed to refill the truck's tanks, and may help to save your property.

On the east wall of the Community building, there are fire fighting tools, fire/medical equipment, and a Stokes litter. Similar tools are also on the truck. An AED, charged and ready for use, is also on the east wall.

In order to be designated as a fire station, Stuart Island needs six persons trained in structural fire fighting. More discussion is needed on how to achieve that goal.

Owners are encouraged to be fire wise around their house and property. Recommended practices include: a five foot buffer between house and surrounding grasses, check gutters and roof overhang for holes without screens, clear debris and dead wood, have a garden hose ready, and have a portable handheld water extinguisher.

****In any emergency, please call 911 first****

- **Miscellaneous:**

Frog Marine from San Juan Island is offering a new design for mooring buoys. If interested, contact Rhys for more information.

Disaster Airlift Response Team is hosting an earthquake/tsunami practice response exercise in Bellingham June 7th. If a pilot or a HAM radio operator is interested, contact Rhys.

On June 27th a Black Hawk Navy helicopter will be in Roche Harbor. If you are interested in seeing one and how it can be utilized in an emergency response, go over and check it out. This is part of the fire brigade training.

Stuart Island is adding more people and that means more boats. Bow tie, use fenders, take boat to floats or share floats so there is more room on the dock.

Two floats came loose this winter. Both were retrieved, but make sure anchor and lines are inspected before you leave for the winter.

As of June 15, 2025 the current burn permits expire and only 3'x3' campfires are allowed in the county until October 1, 2025. Campfires are campfires, natural wood only and small. Make sure they are out when finished. The best way to prevent an uncontrolled fire is not to start one. Precipitation amounts this year are about 75% of normal and the wildfire risks this summer will be heightened. It is up to all of us to be responsible and vigilant and not start a fire. We all love this island and want to keep it the way it is, plus a fire puts your fire brigade at risk.

Fireworks are not allowed in San Juan County...that includes Stuart Island.

Sally Shivers volunteered to head a committee to reconfigure the locked closet area and contents in the Community building. Thank you!

Remembrances: Jim Bergquist from Stuart Island West

Erick Martin, Richard Martin's son

4th of July Activities:

Friday, July 4th, George and Charlene Renquist will continue their tradition of a wine and cheese party. More information coming soon from Charlene.

Saturday, July 5th, morning games at the Community building, Janelle Davis will be leader.

Saturday, July 5th, 5:30pm Potluck at Community building.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted, Danette Carroll